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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

HOWARD WILLIAM WINTER, et al.

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Application No.: NEW

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: January 26, 2005

Confirmation No.: Unknown

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING FIBRE CHANNEL DEVICES VIA

BYPASS BUFFERS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the reference(s) has been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

The references are cited in the attached International Search Report. An English language version of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine H. McCarthy

Registration Number 41844 Customer Number: 00909

Date: January 26, 2005

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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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| | Substit | tute for form 1449A/PTO | | | Complete if Known | | | | |
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| • | | | | | Application Number | 101922419 | | | |
| | INI | FORMATION | DISCL | OSURE | Filing Date | 01/26/2005 | | | |
| | | ATEMENT B | | | First Named Inventor | HOWARD WILLIAM WINTER | | | |
| SIAILMLM DI ALLUAMI | | | | | Art Unit | TBA | | | |
| | | (Use as many shee | ets as necessa | ry) | Examiner Name | Unknown | | | |
| Sh | reet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 011765-0314597 | | | |

| Examiner Initials* | Cite | Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)} | | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where | |
|--------------------|------------------|---|-------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| | No. ¹ | | | MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
| | | ^{US-} 6,240,096 | B1 | May 29, 2001 | Book | | |
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| Examiner | Date | |
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| Signature | Considered | |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/08b (08-03) Approved for use through 06/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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| | | | | Application Number | 101522479 | | |
| | MATION D | | | Filing Date | 01/26/2005 | | |
| STATE | MENT BY | APPLIC | CANT | First Named Inventor | HOWARD WILLIAM WINTER | | |
| | | | | Art Unit | TBA Unknown | | |
| (L | lse as many sheets | as necessary) | | Examiner Name | | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 011765-0314597 | | |

| | | NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials* Cite No.1 Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the ite magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publish and/or country where published. | | | | | | | | | |
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